



TOM RICHMAN & ASSOCIATES

22 September, 1999

CalFed Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Re: EIR/EIS for CalFed Bay-Delta Program, State Clearinghouse #96032083

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to encourage the inclusion of urban forestry and urban watershed management in the EIR/EIS draft for CalFed Bay-Delta Program. These kinds of integrated urban forestry and watershed projects have great potential for reducing conflicts in the Delta through better use of water resources.

I am enclosing a copy of *Start at the Source: Design Guidance Manual for Stormwater Quality Protection* which we produced for the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA). This document illustrates many feasible methods for minimizing impervious land coverage and infiltrating or detaining runoff in the landscape. By minimizing impervious land coverage and infiltrating runoff, we reduce downstream flooding, preserve stream base flows, and increase habitat. These techniques also provide greater opportunities for trees in urban areas.

Workshops have been held in seven Bay Area counties to disseminate this information to the members of county personnel who oversee planning, water quality, flood control and runoff. The attendance at these workshops demonstrated that local water districts, city planners, engineers, developers and others are beginning to appreciate and accept this kind of integrated approach to stormwater management.

Urban forestry and watershed solutions are cost-effective approaches to water use planning. I urge you to include them in the draft report.

If I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

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Registered California Landscape Architect 2741

*Urban Design and Landscape Architecture*

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